



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants: Watanabe et al.

Serial No.: 09/834,596

Group Art Unit: 1623

Filed: April 13, 2001

Examiner: Howard V. Owens, Jr.

For: 2'- OR 3'-HYDROMETHYL SUBSTITUTED NUCLEOSIDE DERIVATIVES FOR
TREATMENT OF HEPATITIS VIRUS INFECTIONS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 5, 2003

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on November 5, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 4, 8, 12-16, 18, 20, 22-25, and 28-32.

Please add new claims 33-80 and amend claims 1, 5, 9, 17, 19 and 21 as follows:

- A
1. (Once amended) A method for the treatment of hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection comprising administering an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of formulas [I] – [IV] below and mixtures of two or more thereof: